

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MADRID 01222 100806 Z

14

ACTION PM-09

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 RSR-01 RSC-01 /012 W

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R 091714 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5281

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 1222

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: APER, MASS

SUBJECT: MAAG/ MILGP CHIEF

REF STATE 38814

1. IN GENERAL I CONCUR IN THE EXISTING SYSTEM DEVISED BY JCS FOR ROTATING THE POSITION OF CHIEF JUSMG/ MAAG AMONG THE THREE SERVICES. UNDER THAT SYSTEM, THE INCUMBENT, AN ARMY MAJOR GENERAL, WOULD BE SUCCEDED BY A NAVY OFFICER OF EQUIVALENT RANK, AND HE IN TURN BY AN AIR FORCE OFFICER.

2. WHILE I CONTINUE TO ACCEPT THESE AS VERY GENERAL GUIDELINES, I WOULD PREFER, HOWEVER, AT LEAST DURING MY TENURE HERE, THAT THE POST CONTINUE TO BE HELD BY AN ARMY MAJOR GENERAL. I CONSIDER IT EQUITABLE THAT THE ARMY NOW BE REPRESENTED IN SPAIN AT A HIGH LEVEL, SINCE THE AIR FORCE HERE IS ALREADY WELL REPRESENTED BY A TWO STAR GENERAL IN COMMAND OF 16 TH AIR FORCE, AND THE NAVY CAN CLAIM SOME RECOGNITION FROM MY PRESENCE HERE AS AMBASSADOR. MOREOVER, THIS IS THE FIRST TIME IN THE MORE THAN 20 YEARS OF OUR DEFENSE RELATIONS WITH SPAIN THAT AN ARMY OFFICER HAS HEADED THE MILITARY GROUP.

3. I RECOGNIZE OF COURSE THERE MAY BE OTHER COMPELLING CIRCUMSTANCES NOT NOW APPARENT THAT COULD HAVE IMPORTANT BEARING ON SUCH A DECISION WHEN THE INCUMBENT, GENERAL BALDWIN, COMPLETES HIS ASSIGNMENT.

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RM IN VIEW OF THE SHORT TIME AVAILABLE FOR THIS REPLY I
WOULD PREFER TO GIVE MY VIEWS IN THE SUBJECT OF MAAG/ MILGP
SIZE AND MAKE- UP AFTER I HAVE HAD MORE TIME TO STUDY THE
MATTER.
RIVERO

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** STADIS

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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